

## "OVER THERE"

### ORDERED TO THE FRONT.

September 14 was another red-letter day in our war calendar. This was the day we left this training area and started for the front. A long, tiresome hike put us in Ervy, where we spent one night in our "pup" tents, and were supplied with field equipment, such as rolling kitchens, wagons and water carts. Soon after our arrival we were assembled for an address by the colonel. This speech, extracts from which appear below, was Colonel Halstead's last message to us before we went into the trenches.

Extracts from Colonel Halstead's speech before the 321st Infantry at Ervy, September 14, 1918.

"I think a lot of this regiment, and before I get to the front I want to have a few words with you—man to man, not, 'Why don't you keep step,' 'Hold your heads up,' and all that stuff—and perhaps give you a better understanding of my own feelings for you and my opinion of you.

"You came to me only a very short time ago, and I had but a limited time to break you men in so you would have an even break with the Boche. The only way I could break you in and make soldiers out of you, was to knuckle you down and try to make of you able and efficient soldiers, well developed physically and well developed mentally. Soldiering in the United States is more or less a new thing. There are only a few of us who have devoted our time and life to soldiering. We had to strain every bit of energy we had to break